Resistance to anti-biotics by army jawans

1488. SHRI K. R. MALKANI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Army Jawans are growing more and more resistant to anti-biotics;

(b) what is the extent of this resistance;

(c) what is this resistance due to; and

(d) what steps Government are taking in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Does not arise.

Visit of US Defence Secretary to Jodhpur Air Base

1489. SHRI INDER KUMAR GUJRAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the United States Secretary of Defence, during the course of his visit to India in January, 1995 was shown Jodhpur Air Base;

(b) whether it is also a fact that he was told of the problems being faced by the country in regard to inadequate supply of spares in respect of Russian Mig Aircraft.

(c) if so, the reasons for the proposed visit and the disclosure about inadequate supply of spares in respect of Russian Aircraft; and

(d) whether it is also a fact that this has been resented to by the Russian Mission here?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Air Officer Commanding in Chief of the South Western Air Command (SWAC) responded briezy to a query in this regard raised by the US Secretary of Defence.

(c) As a part of normal practice, visiting foreign Defence dignitaries are taken to some of our Defence establishments. The United States Secretary of Defence was taken on a visit to HQ SWAC and Air Force Station at Jodhpur. The response of AOC-in-C was in respect of certain types of aircraft in the SWAC and was not in respect of all Russian aircraft with the Indian Air Force.

(d) Government has not received any such communication from the Mission.

Higher pension to ex-Soldiers

1490. SHRI IQBAL SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item published in the 'Tribune' dated the 3rd February, 1995 under the caption "Ex-Soldiers deserve higher pensions";

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In the newsitem it has been stated that Defence Forces personnel need a better deal in the matter of pay & allowances, terms and conditions of service and pensionary benefits.

(c) The Government have set up the Fifth Central Pay Commission. The terms of reference of the Pay Commission include conditions of service, pay structure and pensionary benefits of all the Central Government employees including the Armed Forces personnel.

Placement of orders with BEML

1491. SHRI JIBON ROY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Railway Ministry decreased its placement of